

## BLACK LIVES MATTER, UNITED WE STAND



The 1917 Clinic stands against the senseless murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and so many other deaths across our nation because of racism. We stand against racism, violence and hatred of any kind. The 1917 Clinic stands in solidarity with our patients, coworkers, leaders, friends, and community to end discrimination and inequity. We stand in support of Black people who have been impacted by racial injustice and White privilege for far too long. We stand in support of the “Black Lives Matter” movement.

Since its establishment in 1988, the 1917 Clinic has been committed to caring and advocating for those who were judged and shunned by many. In our 32-year history, 1917 Clinic has been guided by the principle of compassionate care for people with and affected by HIV in service to our community.

While the face of the HIV epidemic has changed since 1988, our compassion and commitment has not. Sixty-six percent of our clinic population identifies as Black while only 27% of our state population is Black. We see many health disparities daily in our clinic. We know that many of our patients and community members have been disenfranchised and forgotten. We stand with them and for them. Today, we remain committed to the 1917 Clinic serving as a safe place where all people are welcomed and treated with dignity and respect, especially Black people who have been most impacted by social injustices. We want to do better.

While some of us may not have experienced oppression and discrimination, we will listen and seek to understand. We can speak up when we see injustice, and refuse to stand by when we bear witness to the mistreatment of others. We recognize that to be silent is to be complicit. We commit to using our voice to advance social justice, equality and non-discrimination.

The 1917 Clinic commits to honest introspection to challenge our personal and systemic racial and cultural biases. We commit to learn and empower our colleagues, patients and community. We will seek to provide a more culturally respectful and trauma informed approach in the work we do. We stand in solidarity in support of racial equality, social justice and the need for positive change. We will do this together.

In solidarity,

UAB 1917 Outpatient, Dental and Research Clinic